AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A composition comprising a core containing a pharmaceutically active agent wherein the core is encapsulated with a membrane comprising esterified C_{12}-C_{18} fatty acids to form a pro-micelle wherein the concentration of fatty acids in the composition is less than 15 weight %.
2. (ORIGINAL) The composition of Claim 1 wherein the core is a microemulsion or liposome.
3. (ORIGINAL) The composition of Claim 2 wherein the microemulsion contains a phospholipid and a surfactant.
4. (ORIGINAL) The composition of Claim 2 wherein the lipsome contains a hydrophilic phase containing the pharmaceutically active agent and a continuous hydrophilic phase containing cholesterol, phospholipid, lipophilic surfactant and unesterified fatty acid.
5. (ORIGINAL) The composition of Claim 1 wherein the pharmaceutically active agent is insulin, growth hormone, interferon, calcitonin, urokinase, coagulation Factor-VIII, coagulation Factor IX, erythroporetin, nafcillin, vincristin, cephazoline, doxorubicin, quinine, chloroquine, primaquine, d-alpha-tocophenol, gentamicin, glyburide, indomethacin, oxyphenbutazone, chlorothiazole, propranolol, cyclophosphamide, physostigmine, fluoxetine or feldene.
6. (ORIGINAL) The composition of Claim 1 wherein the pharmaceutically active agent is insulin.

7. (ORIGINAL) The composition of Claim 1 wherein the C_{12}-C_{18} fatty acids are extracted from coconut.

8. (ORIGINAL) The composition of Claim 1 wherein the membrane is about 0.02mm thick.

9. (ORIGINAL) The composition of Claim 1 wherein the membrane is further encapsulated with a film coating.

10. (ORIGINAL) The composition of Claim 9 wherein the film coating comprises gelatin.

11. (ORIGINAL) The composition of Claim 9 which is a minicapsule having a diameter of about 1.8 to 3.0 millimeters.

12. (ORIGINAL) The composition of Claim 11 which is further coated with an enteric coating.

13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of making a composition comprising a pharmaceutically active agent comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a liposome or microemulsion containing a pharmaceutically active agent;

(b) coating the liposome or microemulsion with a mid-layer comprising esterified C_{12}-C_{18} saturated fatty acids to form a pro-micelle; and

(c) coating said midlayer with a film layer to provide a minicapsule.

14. (ORIGINAL) The method of Claim 13 further comprising the step of capsulating said minicapsule into a gelatin capsule.

15. (ORIGINAL) The method of Claim 13 wherein said lipsome or microemulsion is in dry powder form.

16. (ORIGINAL) The method of Claim 13 wherein said minicapsule has a diameter of from about 1.8 to 3.0 millimeters.

17. (ORIGINAL) A method of delivering a pharmaceutically active agent to a mammal comprising orally administering the composition of Claim 1 to said mammal.

18. (ORIGINAL) The method of Claim 17 wherein said mammal is a human.

19. (NEW) A composition comprising a core containing a pharmaceutically active agent wherein the core is encapsulated with a membrane about 0.02 mm thick comprising esterified C_{12}-C_{18} fatty acids to form a pro-micelle wherein the concentration of fatty acids in the composition is less than 15 weight %.

20. (NEW) The composition of Claim 19 wherein the core is a microemulsion or liposome.

21. (NEW) The composition of Claim 20 wherein the microemulsion contains a phospholipid and a surfactant.

22. (NEW) The composition of Claim 20 wherein the lipsome contains a hydrophilic phase containing the pharmaceutically active agent and a continuous hydrophilic phase containing cholesterol, phospholipid, lipophilic surfactant and unesterified fatty acid.

23. (NEW) The composition of Claim 19 wherein the pharmaceutically active agent is insulin, growth hormone, interferon, calcitonin, urokinase, coagulation Factor-VIII, coagulation Factor IX, erythroporetin, nafcillin, vincristin, cephazoline, doxorubicin, quinine, chloroquine, primaquine, d-alpha-tocophenol, gentamicin, glyburide,

indomethacin, oxyphenbutazone, chlorothiazole, propranolol, cyclophosphamide, physostigmine, fluoxetine or feldene.

24. (NEW) The composition of Claim 19 wherein the pharmaceutically active agent is insulin.

25. (NEW) The composition of Claim 19 wherein the C_{12}-C_{18} fatty acids are extracted from coconut.

26. (NEW) The composition of Claim 19 wherein the membrane is about 0.02mm thick.

27. (NEW) The composition of Claim 19 wherein the membrane is further encapsulated with a film coating.

28. (NEW) The composition of Claim 27 wherein the film coating comprises gelatin.

29. (NEW) The composition of Claim 27 which is a minicapsule having a diameter of about 1.8 to 3.0 millimeters.

30. (NEW) The composition of Claim 29 which is further coated with an enteric coating.

31. (NEW) A method of making a composition comprising a pharmaceutically active agent comprising the steps of:

(d) providing a liposome or microemulsion containing a pharmaceutically active agent;

(e) coating the liposome or microemulsion with a mid-layer about 0.02 mm thick comprising esterified C_{12}-C_{18} saturated fatty acids to form a pro-micelle; and

(f) coating said midlayer with a film layer to provide a minicapsule.

32. (NEW) The method of Claim 31 further comprising the step of capsulating said minicapsule into a gelatin capsule.

33. (NEW) The method of Claim 31 wherein said lipsome or microemulsion is in dry powder form.

34. (NEW) The method of Claim 31 wherein said minicapsule has a diameter of from about 1.8 to 3.0 millimeters.

35. (NEW) A method of delivering a pharmaceutically active agent to a mammal comprising orally administering the composition of Claim 19 to said mammal.

36. (NEW) The method of Claim 35 wherein said mammal is a human.